

From: tony kwong
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/16/01 10:07pm
Subject: proposed settlement does not serve the nation's interest

DOJ,

What is good for Microsoft is most emphatically NOT good for the nation overall.
What little gain Microsoft's shareholders and this administration's fund raisers reap
has to be paid for many times over by consumers who are denied choice and companies
who are the victims of Microsoft's predatory business practice. All of this only happens
because Microsoft can indulge in monopolistic behavior. Of this, the Clinton administration's
justice department has won the point through due process of law. Now, the Bush
administration's justice department intends to let Microsoft continue with a slap on the wrist.

The nation's interest will be better served by strong curbs on Microsoft's behavior since that
will provide for far more innovation and economic growth. If this inconveniences Microsoft,
they have earned it through a long history of monopolistic behavior and sanctions are indeed
called for. Full disclosure of the APIs and protocols used by Microsoft products should be
the cornerstone of any settlement that actually tries to remedy Microsoft's practice of using secret
and/or changing APIs to disable competitor's attempt to produce inter operable software which
is needed to compete in the marketplace (which incidentally will provide the maximal benefit to
consumers of such software). Stiff penalties should be imposed for any such violations with
generous bounties offered to anybody who can document any such violation, including immunity
from DMCA if the investigation indeed uncovers a violation of the antitrust agreement. After all,
Microsoft should not be allowed to hide any criminal act behind DMCA. It does not matter if
it was intentional or a mistake, maybe this will finally make Microsoft pay some attention to the
quality of what they do. Just take a look at their appalling record of security holes that allow
viruses to flourish because as a monopoly, their users are forced to bear this burden without recourse.

Show some backbone. The nation's best interest can only be served if
the DOJ does not act as
if it dances to the tune of the campaign contributors and lobbyist.

yours sincerely
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